CLAIMS

1. A method for error processing and reporting during validation of a business document in a client-server environment, the method including:

accessing a first self-describing, structured document having a document type;

validating the first document against a schema corresponding to the document type;

generating a second self-describing, structured document including, for any detected errors,

at least one error identifier; and

a path specification identifying a node within the primary document corresponding to the detected error;

applying a declarative transformation to the first and second documents, producing a user interface character string, including a plurality of

path specifications for nodes in the first document; and

values for nodes in the first document; and

at least one error message corresponding to the at least one error identifier; and

transmitting the user interface character string.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the schema is compliant with any version of a SOX standard.

3. The method of claim 2, further including validating the first document against a set of business processing rules and generating a third self-describing, structured document, wherein the declarative transformation is further applied to the third document.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the declarative transformation is compliant with an XSLT standard.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein the declarative transformation is compliant with an XSLT standard.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an HTML standard.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an HTML standard.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an HTML standard.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an XML standard.

10. The method of claim 3, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an XML standard.

11. The method of claim 5, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an XML standard.

12. A method for error processing and reporting during validation of a business document in a client-server environment, the method including:

accessing a first self-describing, structured document having a document type;

validating the first document against a set of business processing rules applicable to the document type and an intended recipient of the first document;

generating a second self-describing, structured document including, for any detected errors,

at least one error identifier; and

a path specification identifying a node within the primary document corresponding to the detected error;

applying a declarative transformation to the first and second documents, producing a user interface character string, including a plurality of

path specifications for nodes in the first document; and

values for nodes in the first document; and

at least one error message corresponding to the at least one error identifier; and

transmitting the user interface character string.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the business processing rules are Schematron-compliant.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the declarative transformation is compliant with an XSLT standard.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the declarative transformation is compliant with an XSLT standard.

16. The method of claim 12, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an HTML standard.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an HTML standard.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an HTML standard.

19. The method of claim 12, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an XML standard.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an XML standard.

21. The method of claim 15, wherein the user interface character string is compliant with an XML standard.